

8430 to 8433. PUNICA GRANATUM.**Pomegranate.**

From Valetta, Malta. Presented by Baron Testaferrata Abela, through Mr. D. G. Fairchild. Received February 25, 1902.

Cuttings as follows:

8430.

Giuseppe. Prima quality.

8432.

Frances.

8431.

Due Colon, di S. Caterina.

8433.

S. Rosa.

8434. ELEUSINE CORACANA.**Ragi millet or Kurakkan.**

From Colombo, Ceylon. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 809, January 13, 1902), February 25, 1902.

"A species of millet which is planted all over Ceylon by the Singalese. It is a most important food crop for the natives, although given little attention by Europeans. Watt's Dictionary of Indian Products, 1890, Vol. III, p. 237, gives a long account of the use of this species in India, where it forms one of the great staples. Ferguson describes it as the most prolific of cultivated grasses. One variety, *E. stricta* Roxb., gives an increase of 120 fold, another 500 fold, and a single seed has been calculated to produce no less than 8,100 seeds in a single year. These seeds are very small, however. The food made from this species is coarse, though nourishing. When boiled the flour forms a sticky paste, which must be eaten with greasy gravy to be palatable. There are two varieties in this sample, mixed together, this being the way the field was sown. The two sorts are called *Hamasu Kurakkan*, or *Black Kurakkan*, and *Kiri* (White or Milk) *Kurakkan*. The seed is broadcasted and is in or trampled in with the feet in May, in Ceylon, and the crop ripens in three months. It seems, however, to be sometimes planted at other times of the year. These varieties are suited only to irrigated lands and for trial in tropical regions with an abundance of rain. This species is a native of Ceylon, but varieties of the same species are cultivated under the native names of *Maria Kairarii* or *Kelvaragu* in continental India. This whole question of the Indian millets, many of which withstand severe dry weather, Watt says, is worthy of especial attention, and all the best varieties should be secured. Doctor Drieberg, superintendent of School Gardens, Cinnamon Gardens, Colombo, should be applied to for a larger quantity of this seed, which at this season is difficult to secure in good condition. As a chicken food this is reputed to be unsurpassed, fattening poultry with great rapidity. This is grown in a region which has 75 to 100 inches of rainfall a year." (*Fairchild.*)

8435. CITRUS DECUMANA.**Pomelo.**

From Poona, India. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 815, January 26, 1902), February 25, 1902.

"A variety of pomelo which is said to be practically seedless, though not of first quality. It may prove useful for crossing purposes. It is medium large and has a thick skin. The flesh is too dry." (*Fairchild.*)

8436. VITIS VINIFERA.**Grape.**

From Poona, India. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 816, January 27, 1902), February 25, 1902.

Bhokri. "A sweet, white sort, with rather tough skin, but very productive. This is one of the best varieties for general cultivation about Poona, which has a high altitude, tropical climate, temperature as high as 120°, and with 30 inches of rainfall. It is said to have originated in the north of India. It bears two crops a year, only the second one, however, being sweet." (*Fairchild.*)

8437. JASMINUM SAMBAC.**Arabian jasmine.**

From Poona, India. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 817, January 25, 1902), February 25, 1902.

"A variety of jessamine much cultivated by the natives of India and used by them in their worship under the name of *Mogaree*. It is a vigorous growing shrub and